

SHRI V.S. VIJAYAR-
AGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some multi-national companies are seeking permission to set up dairy industries in the country;

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the dairy industries are likely to be affected as a result of entry of these companies; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to safeguard our industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir. There is no pending proposal for foreign collaboration either from any foreign company or an Indian applicant.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Special Aircraft for VIPs

6801. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times special aircraft have been used by the members of the Union Cabinet, excluding Prime Minister for domestic visits during the last six months;

(b) the names of the ministers given permission for the use of special aircraft; and

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M.

JACOB): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Drilling of Oil and Gas wells on coast of Bay of Bengal

6802. DRT. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of oil and gas wells drilled under PY2 offshore at Portonova on the Coast of Bay of Bengal, and

(b) the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) and (b). One well on PY-2 structure was drilled which proved to be dry.

Production of Paddy Varieties

6803. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the varieties of paddy grown in the country at present;

(b) the yield per acre of these varieties; and

(c) the varieties of paddy which have been successful in increasing the production of rice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The varieties of paddy grown in the country at present can be classified as under:

(i) local/traditional paddy varieties.

- (ii) improved paddy varieties
- (iii) high yielding paddy varieties
- (iv) scented/aromatic paddy varieties

(b) The yield per acre of these varieties depends on the Agrecological conditions and input use under which these are grown. The traditional/local varieties, improved varieties and scented/aromatic varieties are generally poor in their production potential as compared to the high yielding paddy varieties. The average productivity of these varieties of paddy in the country is about 1.75 tonnes per ha. in terms of rice.

(c) The propagation of cultivation of high yielding varieties of paddy has helped in increasing the over all production in the country.

Production of Rice

6804. SHRI A. PRATHAP SAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present production of rice is sufficient to meet the requirement;

(b) if not, the manner in which shortfall is likely to be met;

(c) the present requirement of rice, State-wise; and

(d) the estimated production of rice during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d). According to Report of the working Group on Demand and Supply projections and Improvement of Agricultural Statistics for the Formulation of Eighth Five Year Plan, the demand projection for rice has been esti-

mated as 73.95 million in 1991-92 Against this demand, the production of rice in 1991-92 is likely to be in the range of 73.0-73.5 million tonnes. The State-wise information on demand for rice is not available.

2. Since 1992-93 Crop Year is yet to start, it is too early to indicate estimated production of rice for that year. However, for increasing the production of rice, the Government is implementing Integrated Programme for Rice Development in various States.

Participation of Indian Diplomats in Political Function Abroad

6805. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian diplomats abroad including permanent representatives of India to the UN are permitted to participate in political or quasi political functions such as those held in honour of visiting leaders of Indian Political Parties or those organised by Associations, Societies or Organisations which work for Indian Political Parties in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the particulars of the public functions of the Political or quasi Political character in which Indian diplomatic representatives have participated during the last three years, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) All Indian diplomats including permanent Representatives to UN are bound by the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1964 which prohibits taking part in politics including participation in functions of a political nature. However,